



**United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia**

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PRESS RELEASE

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WALDORF MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BREAKING INTO H STREET BANK ON INAUGURATION DAY

WASHINGTON - Cyprian Riley, 31, of Waldorf, Maryland, plead guilty on Monday in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to Bank Burglary, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips. The Honorable Ellen Segal Huvelle scheduled sentencing in the case for November 20, 2009. At sentencing, Riley faces a maximum statutory prison sentence of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000.

According to the government's evidence, on Inauguration Day, January 20, 2009, at approximately 12:50 a.m., Riley entered a Bank of America located at 961 H Street, N.E., in Washington, D.C., where he intended to steal money from an Automated Teller Machine. Riley was wearing a mask when he entered the bank and was carrying a circular saw, several metal-cutting saw blades, a wrench, and an extension cord. Riley, who at the time worked for the company that was responsible for servicing the location's ATMs, also had keys that allowed him to open the ATM and expose the safe.

Riley began cutting the safe with his circular saw, causing a great deal of smoke. The smoke tripped a silent smoke alarm, and the company monitoring the alarm notified the Metropolitan Police Department ("MPD"). Several MPD officers responded to the call. Riley told police that he was at the bank to service the ATMs; he then attempted to flee police, but was soon caught and detained. In a subsequent interview with MPD, Riley admitted that he was trying to cut the ATM safe in order to take money from the ATM.

In announcing the guilty plea, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended the outstanding investigative work of FBI Special Agent Jeffrey Johannes and MPD Detective Elmer "Buddy" Baylor, Jr. He also praised the work of Assistant U.S. Attorneys Stephen J. Spiegelhalter, who is prosecuting the case, and Renata Kendrick Cooper, who previously investigated the case.

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